

## Message Text

SECRET

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71

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 MCT-01 SY-05 EB-07 COME-00 A-01 OPR-02

SCA-01 SCS-03 DHA-02 USSS-00 AID-05 IO-13 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00

/091 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/AND/C:DWCOX:MMS

APPROVED BY ARA/AND:FJDEVINE

M/CT - JKARKASIAN (DRAFT)

----- 003935

O 011923Z OCT 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY PANAMA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 244018

PANAMA FOR RSS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC, PINS, CASC, SOCI, CO

SUBJECT: CURTIS KIDNAPPING

REFERENCE: A) STATE 242326 B) BOGOTA 9902 C) 75 STATE

283548 D) BOGOTA 10006

1. DONALD KLEIN PHONED DEPTOFF SEPTEMBER 30 TO INQUIRE WHETHER THERE IS ANY GOC LAW OR DECREE WHICH PROHIBITS RANSOM PAYMENT. HE SAID HE WANTED THIS INFORMATION IN HAND IN ANTICIPATION OF RECEIPT OF RANSOM DEMAND. HE INDICATED AWARENESS OF PRESS REPORTS OF RANSOM HAVING BEEN PAID FOR RELEASE OF SEARS EXECUTIVE DONALD COOPER.

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2. DEPTOFF FIRST EXPLAINED USG POLICY REPAYMENT OF RANSOM (REFTEL C), AND THEN STATED HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT, AS A MATTER OF POLICY, GOC OPPOSES RANSOM PAYMENTS. AT SAME TIME DEPTOFF ACKNOWLEDGED THAT RANSOMS HAVE UNDOUBTEDLY BEEN PAID IN MANY RECENT KIDNAPPING CASES IN COLOMBIA. DEPTOFF SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO CHECK ON WHETHER THERE ARE ANY GOC LAWS OR DECREES PROHIBITING RANSOM PAYMENTS, AND THAT HE WOULD CALL KLEIN BACK.

3. QUICK FILE CHECK HERE REVEALS NO INFORMATION ON LAWS OR DECREES RE RANSOM. REQUEST YOU ADVISE SOONEST WHETHER TO BEST OF YOUR KNOWLEDGE THERE ARE LAWS OR DECREES, AND, IF SO, CITE NUMBERS AND PROVIDE TEXT OF KEY PHRASES. DO NOT, REPEAT NOT, MAKE INQUIRIES OF GOC OFFICIALS RE EXISTENCE OF LAWS OR DECREES.

KISSINGER

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** KIDNAPPING, BUSINESSMEN  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 OCT 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976STATE244018  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** DWCOX:MMS  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760371-0016  
**From:** STATE  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19761091/aaaadbck.tel  
**Line Count:** 78  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ORIGIN ARA  
**Original Classification:** SECRET  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** SECRET  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 STATE 242326, 76 BOGOTA 9902, 75 STATE 76  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 20 JUL 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <20 JUL 2004 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <20 JUL 2004 by GolinoFR>  
**Review Markings:**

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US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CURTIS KIDNAPPING  
**TAGS:** ASEC, PINS, CASC, SOCI, CO, US, (CURTIS, GUSTAVO)  
**To:** BOGOTA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006